

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-10

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DRAFTED BY ARA/NC:FJDEVINE

APPROVED BY ARA - MR. DEVINE

EB/ORF/FSE - MR. CREEKMORE

DEPT. OF INTERIOR - MR. AUSTIN

ARA/NC/V - MR. SONANDRES

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CARACAS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG VE

SUBJECT: INTERIOR SECRETARY MORTON'S ASSURANCE TO VENEZUELA
ON TRANSFER OF ENERGY TECHNOLOGY

REF: CARACAS 1205

1. IN HIS WELL-RECEIVED PRESENTATION AT BOSTON SYMPOSIUM,
INTERIOR SECRETARY MORTON OFFERED VENEZUELA OPPORTUNITY
TO SHARE IN ENERGY TECHNOLOGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT
RATHER THAN PETROLEUM TECHNOLOGY AS SUGGESTED BY SUBJECT
LINE OF REFTEL.

2. CONTEXT OF SECRETARY MORTON'S REMARKS WAS DETERMINA-
TION OF USG TO PUSH AHEAD WITH ITS OWN ENERGY RESEARCH
IN ORDER BOTH TO REDUCE VULNERABILITY AND TO CORRECT
DISPROPORTIONATE IMPACT OF US DEMAND UPON WORLD MARKET
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FOR HYDROCARBON FORMS OF ENERGY. THE SECRETARY SAID US

WOULD INVEST NECESSARY SUMS AND DEVOTE REQUIRED EFFORT
TO DEVELOP AMERICA'S VAST COAL RESERVES AND SUCH ALTERNATE
SOURCES OF ENERGY AS NUCLEAR, SOLAR, GEOTHERMAL, AND IN
CERTAIN FEASIBLE LOCATIONS WIND.

3. FOR ITS PART, HE ADDED, VENEZUELA WOULD NOT ALWAYS
HAVE HYDROCARBON RESOURCES AND MIGHT THEREFORE HAVE
INTEREST OF ITS OWN IN SUCH RESEARCH. SHOULD GOV WISH TO

SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO OBSERVE OUR RESEARCH EFFORTS
THEY WOULD BE WELCOME.

4. VENEZUELANS DID, AS EMBASSY REPORTS, EVINCE HIGHLY
POSITIVE INTEREST IN THIS OFFER. DEPARTMENTS OF STATE
AND INTERIOR WILL COOPERATE TO MAKE IMPLEMENTATION
POSSIBLE. INGERSOLL

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